



THE HYDE MANSION on High Street may become the home of a private boarding school proposed to be established here. The Bath landmark, formerly the home of a prominent Bath shipbuilder, John Holmes Hyde, in recent years has housed the Hyde Rehabilitation Center, and presently the Hyde Speech and Hearing Center. The picture shows the new wing added to south end when it was turned into a rehabilitation facility.

Private Boarding School Hopes To Locate In Bath

A private secondary school is in prospect for the Shipbuilding City. Leonard Mulligan, chairman of the City Council appointed coordinating committee for economic development, announced today that significant progress has been made in an effort to establish a privately - endowed, non - profit boarding school in Bath.

Mulligan, the retiring president of the Bath Area Chamber of Commerce, said preliminary negotiations are underway to locate the proposed new school in the former Hyde Rehabilitation Center which is now occupied by the Hyde Speech and Hearing Center.

A corporation is in the process of being formed and plans call for the new school to open next fall.

Mulligan said the proposed facility would reactivate the now largely unused complex of buildings on the Hyde estate.

If the effort proves successful, Mulligan estimated that some \$200,000 a year will be added to the Bath area economy.

Mulligan said representatives of the Coordinating Committee have been seeking a worthwhile use for the Hyde property, which is owned by the Pine Tree Society, for the past 10 weeks.

He revealed that exploratory thinking has reached the point that the committee is now convinced that an independent preparatory school can be established in time to open next fall.

A top private school educator has assisted the committee in its preliminary work and contact has already been made with several potential members of a board of trustees to direct the operations of the school, Mulligan revealed.

As presently envisioned the school hopes to serve approxi-

mately 230 students within six or seven years, the coordinating committee chairman said.

A large percentage of the enrollment will be boarding students, but day students would be admitted on a limited basis.

Among those assisting in the preliminary work have been City Councilman William E. Haggett, Attorneys Donald A. Spear and Duane Fitzgerald and Vice President T. Tarpy Schulten of the Canal National Bank.

Mulligan reports the school will provide a four year secondary education beginning with the ninth grade and continuing through grades twelve. Initial plans call for use of buildings presently on the Hyde property; however, long range projections include utilization of Hyde's entire 140 acres.

"The group establishing this school is now forming a corporation and selecting a Board of Trustees. Their next step will be a formal offer to the Pine Tree Society's Board of Directors to purchase the property," the chairman said.

Mulligan continued:

"The Coordinating Committee has unanimously endorsed this proposal for utilization of the Hyde property and recognizes this action to be one of the most progressive moves made in the City of Bath in many years.

"The committee feels that this type of independent school with

its high standards will go hand in hand with our outstanding public school system, and prove very attractive to many people who are considering living and working in the City of Bath.

"We also know the school will be an added incentive for potential employees of our leading industry which has indicated a need to attract men with specialized skills as it diversifies and expands its operation.

The committee emphasizes that one of the outstanding aspects of this plan is the Pine Tree Society's desire to maintain its headquarters in the City of Bath, and to maintain and expand its speech and hearing program in this area, Mulligan declared.

"As one who has worked hard to help establish this school, I can safely say that we anticipate a great deal of work and many problems before the first class is admitted. Broad private support for this project will be necessary if the City of Bath is to have such a school. The committee is confident that support will be forthcoming."

"Looking ahead, we anticipate that this school will make a real contribution directly and indirectly toward improving education standards for all our young people and in a broader sense the school's influence will have great impact throughout our community," he concluded.

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